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17 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion of Delineation of Training Responsibility  
With TSS

THOSE PRESENT:



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A discussion of the problem of training in investigative techniques for the personnel in covert offices was held July 8, 1952, in Mr. [REDACTED] office.

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1. Mr. [REDACTED] outlined for the benefit of TSS representatives, the TR(S) concept of the problem of training in investigative techniques. It was pointed out that in many specific fields the relationship of the covert operational problem to the technical problem was so close and all-pervasive in our opinion as to make an attempt to separate the two aspects of training an extremely unrealistic one.

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2. The discussion then turned to an examination of three possible solutions to the operational problem of technical investigations:

a. Development of technical competence in officers of the covert offices to a point where they were capable of undertaking technical investigative work directly themselves in the field.

b. The creation of a centrally controlled pool of technicians who would be available for assignments on a task basis to field installations having need of their services. These technicians would theoretically operate in close coordination with, but not under the control of, the operational personnel in the field.

c. The development on a regional basis of technical investigative units which would service the requirements of all situations within the area. The TR(S) participants brought up, in this connection, the fact that covert technical investigations in many instances could only be carried out through the use of indigenous personnel. From this factor the conclusion was drawn that in the technical investigative fields one of the most important functions of staff personnel of the Agency would be the recruitment and training of properly qualified indigenous personnel.

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3. TR(S) then raised the question of how the respective training efforts of TR(S) and TSS could be most effectively coordinated in this field. Our best efforts in the field were described and the weaknesses of those efforts analyzed.

4. It was then proposed that the whole field of technical investigation be examined jointly by TSS and TR(S) and an attempt made to place the various subjects included in one of three categories:

a. Exclusively technical subjects where the responsibility would rest completely with TSS.

b. Exclusively operational subjects where the responsibility would rest completely with TR(S); and

c. Subjects of mutual concern which would be considered for coverage through a joint TR(S)/TSS training effort.

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Mr. [REDACTED] in this regard, pointed out to [REDACTED] that TR(S) was considering the setting up at [REDACTED] of a house in which such a joint training program could be carried out. This house would be so set up and equipped as to permit students to practice not only the purely technical skills but also the operational applications of those skills. The TSS representatives indicated an agreement in principle but also suggested that discussions would be carried out among Mr. [REDACTED] in an attempt to develop a specific statement of a project and program along these lines.

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[REDACTED]  
C/TDS/TR(S)

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